

NOV 5 1996



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
Patent and Trademark Office  
ASSISTANT SECRETARY AND COMMISSIONER  
OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS  
Washington, D.C. 20231

#15

Ronald L. Wilson, Director  
Health Assessment Policy Staff  
Office of Health Affairs (HFY-20)  
Food and Drug Administration  
5600 Fishers Lane, Room 15-22  
Rockville, MD 20857

Dear Mr. Wilson:

The attached application for patent term extension of U.S. Patent No. 4,260,769, was filed on September 30, 1996, under 35 U.S.C. § 156. U.S. Patent No. 4,260,769 issued on April 7, 1981 from an application that claimed priority under 35 U.S.C. § 120 to an application that was filed on April 22, 1977. A copy of a supplement to the application for patent term extension, filed on October 31, 1996, is also attached.

The assistance of your Office is requested in confirming that the product identified in the application, CEREBYX® (fosphenytoin sodium), has been subject to a regulatory review period within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. § 156(g) before its first commercial marketing or use and that the application for patent term extension was filed within the sixty-day period after the product was approved. Since a determination has not been made whether the patent in question claims a product which has been subject to the Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act, this communication is NOT to be considered as notice which may be made in the future pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 156(d)(2)(A).

Our review of the application to date indicates that the subject patent would be eligible for extension of the patent term under 35 U.S.C. § 156.

Inquiries regarding this communication should be directed to Karin Tyson at (703) 306-3159.

Hiram H. Bernstein  
Senior Legal Advisor  
Special Program Law Office  
Office of the Deputy Assistant Commissioner  
for Patent Policy and Project

cc: Todd M. Crissey  
Patent Department  
WARNER-LAMBERT COMPANY  
2800 Plymouth Road  
Ann Arbor, MI 48105

kt